

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed November 27, 2006.

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. Claims 1-17 and 19-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,880,411 to Gillespie et al. (hereinafter referred to as “Gillespie”). Claims 18 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gillespie in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,118,435 to Fujita et al (hereinafter referred to as “Fujita”).

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 19. No new matter is added by these amendments, and support may be found in the specification and claims as originally filed.

Reconsideration and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested in view of the amendments above and remarks below.

Amendment to Claims 1 and 19

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 19 to recite “determining an adaptive pressure threshold value based at least in part on user activity.” No new matter is added by these amendments, and support for the amendments may be found in the specification and claims as originally filed. For example, paragraph 28 recites that “variances may be based on activity of the user or upon the passage of time. The processor (106) may update the threshold stored in memory, store a separate set of adaptive thresholds, or calculate and apply the adaptive thresholds on an ongoing basis.” In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicant respectfully asserts that all claims are allowable for at least the reasons below.

Claims 1-17 and 19-27 – § 102(b) – Gillespie

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-17 and 19-27 under 35 U.S.C § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gillespie.

To anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), the reference must disclose each and every element of the claimed invention. *See* M.P.E.P. § 2131.

Because Gillespie does not disclose “determining an adaptive pressure threshold value based at least in part on user activity” as recited in amended claim 1, Gillespie does not

anticipate claim 1. Gillespie discloses a calibration mechanism for automatically calibrating a threshold for pressure, however, Gillespie discloses that the threshold is based upon the state of the touchpad without user contact. Gillespie does not disclose “determining an adaptive pressure threshold value based at least in part on user activity.” Thus, Gillespie does not anticipate claim 1.

Like claim 1, claim 19 recites “determining an adaptive pressure threshold value based at least in part on user activity.” Gillespie does not anticipate claim 19 for at least the same reason as claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1 and 19.

Because claims 2-17 and 20-27 depend from and further limit claims 1 and 19, claims 2-17 and 20-27 are patentable over Gillespie for at least the same reason. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 2-17 and 20-27.

Claims 18 and 28 – § 103(a) – Gillespie in view of Fujita

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 18 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gillespie in view of Fujita.

To reject a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the combined reference must teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention. *See* M.P.E.P. § 2143.03

Because Gillespie in view of Fujita does not teach or suggest “determining an adaptive pressure threshold value based at least in part on user activity” as recited in claims 1 and 19, from which claims 18 and 28 depend, claims 18 and 28 are patentable over the combined references. As discussed above, Gillespie does not teach or suggest “determining an adaptive pressure threshold value based at least in part on user activity.” Fujita does not cure this deficiency. Fujita discloses a particular implementation of a touch-sensitive screen. Fujita does not teach or suggest “determining an adaptive pressure threshold value based at least in part on user activity.” Thus, claims 18 and 28 are patentable over Gillespie in view of Fujita. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 18 and 28.

CONCLUSION

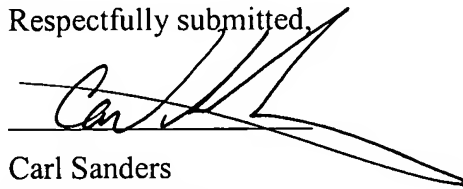
Applicant respectfully asserts that in view of the amendments and remarks above, all pending claims are allowable and Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of all claims.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions, or suggestions of a nature necessary to expedite the prosecution of the application, or to place the case in condition for allowance, the Examiner is courteously requested to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,



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